



Hampton Beach Area Commission

Meeting Minutes, March 27, 2008 Training Room, Hampton Police Station

In Attendance:

Fred Rice, Chairman – Town of Hampton
John Nyhan, Town of Hampton
Doug Deporter – Vice Chairman, NH Dept. of Transportation
Brian Warburton, Secretary/Treasurer, DRED (Seacoast Parks/Rec)
Fran McMahon – Rockingham Planning Commission
Geannina Guzman-Scanlon – Hampton Beach Village District
Chuck Rage – Hampton Chamber of Commerce
Jamie Steffen – Hampton Town Planner (Admin)

Excused:

Tom McGuirk – Hampton Beach Village District
Meghan McPherson - OEP Representative

Chairman Rice called the meeting to order at 7 PM. He introduced out newest member, John Nyhan, to the Commission.

Committee Reports

Community Development: Chairman Rice reported that Tom McGuirk expects the design booklet to be available at our next meeting. Also, Mr. Guthrie's plan revision, which had been reviewed by the Community Development Committee, was approved at that last Planning Board meeting.

Beachscape: Geannina Guzman-Scanlan gave an update on the plaque that will be placed near Hampton State Park entrance, and the stone it will be mounted on, which is being donated by a local contractor.

Zoning and Redevelopment: Fran McMahon gave a brief report on the warrant articles from the March 11 ballot. None of the beach rezoning articles passed. He indicated that the Planning Board may not put forward as many articles next year. The HBAC should continue to discuss this subject throughout the year. Chairman Rice pointed out that

although zoning articles are thoroughly investigated and vetted before being placed on the warrant, and usually pass, that was not the case this year.

Transportation and Parking: Doug DePorter reported that DOT spring cleanup will be starting soon. Included in this are things like trash pickup along Route 101, paving (filling in of pot holes) and other maintenance issues. He also spoke about the Hampton River bridge deck rehab, which should commence in the fall of 2008. The question of banners came up and Doug mentioned that the poles in front of State park are owned by Unitil. He will report back on this issue at April meeting.

Route 1A Corridor Study: Chairman Rice reported that RPC is still working on the scope of a study in preparation for obtaining grants for an update of the parking and transportation element of the Route 1A master plan.

COAST will implement a bus schedule to the seacoast and Hampton Beach on weekends this upcoming season.

State Park Report: Brian Warburton reported that annual beach regrading project will commence May 5-May 16 on the main area of Hampton Beach. Also, the company that has done the beach raking for the last 4 years was awarded another two-year contract.

Status of Seashell Design: Chairman Rice reported that the Design Review Committee will meet in Concord on March 31 to be briefed by the architect on the initial design that came out of the first public input session.

Status of Earth, Sea and Space Museum: Chairman Rice reported that the ESS Museum Directors had met with Gov Lynch to seek approval to go forward with a feasibility study for the project. The Governor was not able to give his approval yet, so the Museum Directors will brief the local legislative delegation in an attempt to garner additional support before meeting again with the Governor.

New Business: Chairman Rice asked if any members had any input, ideas or suggestions that might tie in the Commission's work with the efforts of the Town's new Energy and/or Trash Committees. Other than what has been discussed at previous meetings, there were no new items.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 24 at 7:00 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Brian Warburton, DRED
Secretary

